

三三三一

一四九五

【0036】尚、図3～図5に対応する数値実験例2～4ではより良好な吸収補正を達成するために射出面5に曲率を持たせている。

【0037】又、本実験例において光学部材として全て

アクリルを使用しているが、ガラス材を用いてよいことは言うまでもない。

$$Z = \frac{f_{\text{in}}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - (1 + k_0)(g/r_0)^2}} + f_{\text{ext}}$$

AALの定義式は、

$$\{0041\} = \frac{y^4/r_0 + x^4/r_0}{z}$$

$$+ AR \left((1 + AP_i) y^* + (1 - AP_i) \right)$$

$$+ CR \left\{ (1 + CP_i) \bar{Y}^i + (1 - CP_i)$$

である。

[0042]各A、B_iは各々の構成物である。
[0043]尚、以下に示す実験例では、少なくとも全
ての面にアシムス角膜によって屈折力が異なる面を採用

سیاست و اقتصاد

10

(母線曲率半径)	r_{11} [mm]	r_{12} [mm]	r_{22} [mm]	(面倒点座標)	(母線方向チャルク角度)
(子線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)
(アリズム内)	(アリズム内)	(アリズム内)	(アリズム内)	(アリズム内)	(アリズム内)
i=1	∞			(0, 0)	0
2	-548.019	-74.077	(-0.05, 19.80)	TAL	0
3	-57.595	-40.526	(5.10, 29.14)	TAL	-22
4	-548.019	-74.077	(-0.05, 19.80)	TAL	0
5	∞		(18.59, 28.07)		68.90
6	∞		(21.38, 29.15)		51.17
(TAL2, 4)	L_1, L_2	A_1, A_2	B_1, B_2	C_1, C_2	D_1, D_2
(TAL3)	L_3	A_3	B_3	C_3	D_3
(アリズム d 締切折率)	1.49171				
(アリズム d 締切折率)	57.4				
(母線焦点距離)	$f_1, 21.07\text{mm}$				
(子線焦点距離)	$f_2, 21.86\text{mm}$				

11

11

13

14

実施例2

実施例3

(7)

11

11

13

14

r_n (mm)	r_s (mm)	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
i=1 ∞	∞	(0, 0)	0
2 -2158.074	-32.224 (0.60, 19.93)	AAL -10.55	
3 -63.157	-32.870 (34.76, 30.90)	AAL 15.81	14.60
4 -2158.074	-32.224 (0.60, 19.83)	AAL -10.55	0.04
5 72.108	1049.744 (14.82, 29.00)	AAL 53.74	アリズム内
6 ∞	(17.03, 30.62)	42.91	52.54

r_n (mm)	r_s (mm)	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
i=1 ∞	∞	(0, 0)	0
2 -3945.723	-49.792 (3.665, 20.415)	AAL 0.04	
3 -67.136	-38.803 (36.403, 32.01)	AAL 14.60	アリズム内
4 -3945.723	-49.792 (3.665, 20.415)	AAL 0.04	
5 123.302	843.030 (19.610, 28.357)	AAL 61.72	
6 ∞	(22.402, 28.859)	52.54	

r_n (mm)	r_s (mm)	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
i=1 ∞	∞	(0, 0)	0
2 -13763.5	-3.896 -0.170E-4	AB _s 0.401E-7 CR _s -0.154E-9 DR _s 0.223E-12	
3 -0.245	AB _s -BP _s 0.416E-1	CP _s 0.870E-1 DP _s 0.203E-1	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.238	0.279	AB _s 0.248E-8 CR _s -0.179E-11 DR _s 0.603E-15	
2 -0.249	AB _s -BP _s 0.327E-2	CP _s -0.192E-1 DP _s 0.181E-1	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
6.285	-1.33E-8	AB _s -0.114E-4 CR _s 0.402E-6 DR _s 0.113E-8	
7 0.273E1	AB _s -BP _s 0.155E1	CP _s 0.160E1 DP _s -0.644	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.20mm f _s = 24.09mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

r_n	r_s	y, z	(母線曲率半径)
(母線曲率半径)	(子線曲率半径)	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
1.49171	57.4	f _t = 23.71mm f _s = 23.70mm	

実施例4

r_p [mm]	r_a [mm]	y, z	(面頂点座標)	(母線方向チルト角度°)
i=1	∞	(0, 0)		0
2	-3752.581	-50.580	(2.85, 23.13)	AAL 0
3	-66.938	-38.651	(36.37, 34.72)	AAL 14.15
4	-3752.581	-50.580	(2.85, 23.13)	AAL 0
5	306.125	1095.447	(18.59, 31.48)	AAL 69.84
6	∞	(21.46, 32.54)		51.20

(AAL2, 4) $k_n, 4$ $k_o, 4$ AR, 4 BR, 4 CR, 4 DR, 4 -33820.5 -11.350 $-0.144E-4$ $0.398E-7$ $-0.153E-9$ $0.201E-12$ $AP, 4$ $BP, 4$ $CP, 4$ $DP, 4$
-0.152 0.730E-1 0.494E-1 0.255E-1(AAL3) k_n k_o AR, k_n BR, k_o CR, k_n DR, k_o

1.063 0.127 -0.225E-5 0.316E-8 -0.188E-11 0.474E-15

 $AP,$ $BP,$ $CP,$ $DP,$
0.372 0.563E-1 -0.163E-1 -0.208E-1(AAL5) k_n k_o AR, k_n BR, k_o CR, k_n DR, k_o

745.334 -651374 -0.653E-6 0.124E-6 0.474E-12 0.972E-11

 $AP,$ $BP,$ $CP,$ $DP,$
0.837E1 -0.273 0.563E1 -0.538(アリズムd 回折率) 1.49171
(アリズムd 調整ペダル) 57.4
(母線焦点距離) $f_t = 23.09\text{mm}$
 $f_a = 23.09\text{mm}$

数値データ

$$\alpha = 0^\circ \quad 2f_t/r_a = -0.91 \quad 2f_t/r_o = -0.68$$

$$|f_t/f_i| = 1.0 \quad 2f_t/r_a = -1.19 \quad \beta = 33.5\text{mm}$$

$$|r_t/r_r| = 0.58$$

$$2f_t/r_a = -0.01$$

$$\gamma = 1.52^\circ$$

$$\beta = 18.6^\circ$$

【0048】

【発明の効果】以上説明したように、本発明によれば、水平面角±1.6°、垂直面角±1.1°、4°と広視野範囲内(最大大倍率)で、屈折率高いメガネ型アイフレイを0mm~1.5mmと簡単に調節することができる。しかも明るく良好な光学性能を得ることが可能である。また四面ミラーを半透鏡面として風景を遮まることなく、この風景に対して明るいオリジナル画像の虚像をスーパーインボーズすることが可能となる。

【0049】また本発明は視野範囲内に設定したが、もう1つの断面及び光路を示す図。

【図4】本発明に関する数値実施例3の観察光学系における断面及び光路を示す図。

【図5】本発明に関する数値実施例4の観察光学系における断面及び光路を示す図。

【図6】本発明に関する観察光学系の基礎となる光学断面図。

【図7】本発明に関する観察光学系の基礎となる光学断面図。

【図8】

【図9】

【図10】

【図11】

【図12】

【図13】

【図14】

【図15】

【図16】

【図17】

【図18】

【図19】

【図20】

【図21】

【図22】

【図23】

【図24】

【図25】

【図26】

【図27】

【図28】

【図29】

【図30】

【図31】

【図32】

【図33】

【図34】

【図35】

【図36】

【図37】

【図38】

【図39】

【図40】

【図41】

【図42】

【図43】

【図44】

【図45】

【図46】

【図47】

【図48】

【図49】

【図50】

【図51】

【図52】

【図53】

【図54】

【図55】

【図56】

【図57】

【図58】

【図59】

【図60】

【図61】

【図62】

【図63】

【図64】

【図65】

【図66】

【図67】

【図68】

【図69】

【図70】

【図71】

【図72】

【図73】

【図74】

【図75】

【図76】

【図77】

【図78】

【図79】

【図80】

【図81】

【図82】

【図83】

【図84】

【図85】

【図86】

【図87】

【図88】

【図89】

【図90】

【図91】

【図92】

【図93】

【図94】

【図95】

【図96】

【図97】

【図98】

【図99】

【図100】

【図101】

【図102】

【図103】

【図104】

【図105】

【図106】

【図107】

【図108】

【図109】

【図110】

【図111】

【図112】

【図113】

【図114】

【図115】

【図116】

【図117】

【図118】

【図119】

【図120】

【図121】

【図122】

【図123】

【図124】

【図125】

【図126】

【図127】

【図128】

【図129】

【図130】

【図131】

【図132】

【図133】

【図134】

【図135】

【図136】

【図137】

【図138】

【図139】

【図140】

【図141】

【図142】

【図143】

【図144】

【図145】

【図146】

【図147】

【図148】

【図149】

【図150】

【図151】

【図152】

【図153】

【図154】

【図155】

【図156】

【図157】

【図158】

【図159】

【図160】

【図161】

【図162】

【図163】

【図164】

【図165】

【図166】

【図167】

【図168】

【図169】

【図170】

【図171】

【図172】

【図173】

【図174】

【図175】

【図176】

【図177】

【図178】

【図179】

【図180】

【図181】

【図182】

【図183】

【図184】

【図185】

【図186】

【図187】

【図188】

【図189】

【図190】

【図191】

【図192】

【図193】

【図194】

【図195】

【図196】

【図197】

【図198】

【図199】

【図200】

【図201】

【図202】

【図203】

【図204】

【図205】

【図206】

【図207】

【図208】

【図209】

【図210】

【図211】

【図212】

【図213】

【図214】

【図215】

【図216】

【図217】

【図218】

【図219】

【図220】

【図221】

【図222】

【図223】

【図224】

【図225】

【図226】

【図227】

【図228】

【図229】

【図230】

【図231】

【図232】

【図233】

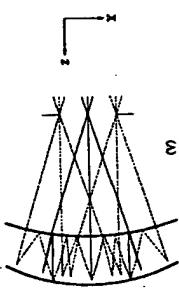
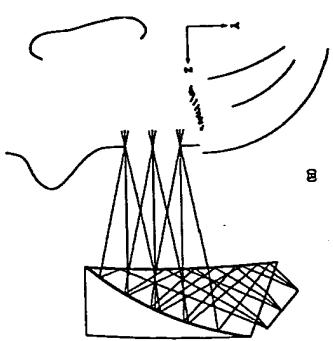
【図234】

【図235】

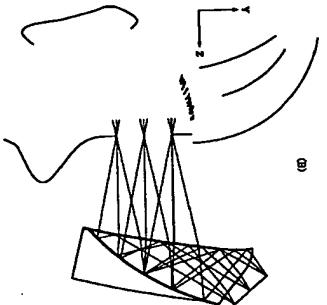
【図236】

【図237】

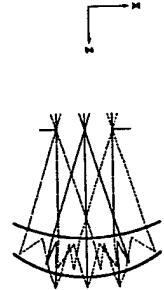
【図238】</



[图5]

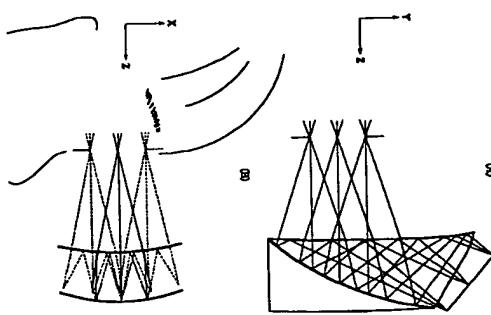


[图3]

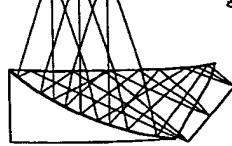


[图3]

(1)



[图4]



4447-33351

**A Translation of Substantially the Whole of
Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. H7-333551
(Laid-Open on December 22, 1995)**

5 [Title of the Invention]

Observation Optical System

[Abstract]

[Object]

10 To provide a compact and thin observation optical system that directs an original image displayed on an LCD or the like to an observer's eye.

[Features]

15 An observation optical system that directs light from an original image to an observer's eyeball in which the light is totally reflected from a curved surface in the direction more distant from an observer's eyeball, then the totally reflected light is reflected from a reflecting surface, especially a reflecting surface exhibiting various optical power in accordance with the difference in the azimuth angles, and then the light is directed to the observer's eyeball upon being transmitted through the curved surface.

20 [Claims]

[Claim 1] An observation apparatus in which an observation optical system directs an original image to an observer's eyeball through a reflecting optical system,

wherein the reflecting optical system includes a curved surface that achieves total reflection.

25 **[Claim 2]** An observation apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the curved surface is disposed in right front of the observer's eyeball.

[Claim 3] An observation apparatus as claimed in claims 1 or 2,

wherein the curved surface has negative refractive power at a sub-line section thereof.

[Claim 4] An observation apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

30 wherein the curved surface exhibits various optical power in accordance with an azimuth angle.

[Claim 5] An observation optical system that directs light from an original image to an

observer's eyeball,

wherein the light is totally reflected from a curved surface in the direction more distant from an observer's eyeball, then the totally reflected light is reflected from a reflecting surface, and then the light is directed to the eyeball upon being transmitted through the curved surface.

5 [Claim 6] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the following condition is fulfilled:

$$|\alpha| \leq 20^\circ$$

10 where an angle formed between a tangent of a vertex of the curved surface and a line perpendicular to an optical axis of the eye is expressed as α .

[Claim 7] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the curved surface has negative refractive power.

[Claim 8] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 5,

15 wherein the curved surface exhibits various optical power in accordance with an azimuth angle.

[Claim 9] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the reflecting surface exhibits various optical power in accordance with an azimuth angle.

20 [Claim 10] An observation optical system that directs light from an original image to an observer's eyeball,

wherein the light is directed to the observer's eyeball through a total-reflection surface that achieves total reflection and a curved surface that exhibits various optical power in accordance with an azimuth angle.

25 [Claim 11] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 10,

wherein the following condition is fulfilled:

$$|\alpha| \leq 20^\circ$$

30 where an angle formed between a tangent of a vertex of the total-reflection surface and a line perpendicular to an optical axis of the eye is expressed as α .

[Claim 12] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 10,
wherein the total-reflection surface has negative refractive power at a sub-line section
thereof.

[Claim 13] An observation optical system as claimed in claim 10,
5 wherein the reflecting surface exhibits various optical power in accordance with an
azimuth angle.

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

10 **[Field of the Invention]**

The present invention relates to an observation optical system, and more particularly to an observation optical system suitable for use in a head-up display and a glasses-type display.

[0002]

15 **[Prior Art]**

Conventionally, several displays in which a CRT or an LCD is arranged near the head of an observer for enabling the observer to observe the image formed on the CRT or the LCD have been proposed. For example, United States Patent Nos. 4081209 and 4969724, Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Nos. S58-78116, H2-297516, and H3-101709 disclose such displays.

[0003]

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. H3-101709 discloses a real-image type observation optical system which re-forms an original image in a manner relatively easy to observe. However, because it uses an optical lens element for re-forming an image, it can 25 not help becoming unduly large.

[0004]

On the other hand, United States Patent Nos. 4081209 and 4969724, Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Nos. S58-78116, and H2-297516 disclose observation apparatuses for observing virtual images. In terms of easiness of observation, they are somewhat inferior 30 to the one mentioned above but are more advantageous in miniaturizing them.

[0005]

[Problems to be Solved by the Invention]

Compare with the real-image type observation apparatus, it is true that the latter type of observation system can be more miniaturized; however, it is yet unsatisfactory. Among the prior arts mentioned above, for example, Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. S58-5 78116 disclosed a relatively compact display; however, the display is still thick in the direction of the optical axis of the eye. Furthermore, it discloses that optical distortion, astigmatism, and coma aberrations occur in the observed image.

[0006]

The object of the present invention is to provide a compact and thin observation 10 optical system.

[0007]

Another object of the present invention is to provide an observation optical system which minimizes aberrations.

[0008]

To achieve the above object, according to one aspect of the present invention, an 15 observation optical system directs an original image to an observer's eyeball through a reflecting optical system, wherein the reflecting optical system includes a curved surface that achieves total reflection. According to another aspect of the present invention, an observation optical system that directs light from an original image to an observer's eyeball, 20 wherein the light is totally reflected from a curved surface in the direction more distant from an observer's eyeball, then the totally reflected light is reflected from a reflecting surface, and the light is directed to the observer's eyeball upon being transmitted through the curved surface. According to still another aspect of the present invention, an observation optical 25 system that directs light from an original image to an observer's eyeball, wherein the light is directed to the eyeball through a total-reflection surface that totally reflects the light and a curved surface that exhibits various optical power in accordance with an azimuth angle.

[0009]

The other distinctive character will be disclosed in the examples mentioned below.

[0010]

30 [Example]

First of all, the basic display optical system embodying the present invention will be

explained with reference to Fig. 6. Reference numeral 4 represents a display means for displaying an image of a letter, a picture, or the like as an original image which is composed of, for example, a widely known liquid crystal display (LCD). Reference numeral 3a represents a first optical member for directing light from the display means 4 to an observer's eye, and 3b represents a second optical member. The light emitted from the display means 4 first enters the first optical member 3a, then is totally reflected from a total-reflection surface 1 disposed on the eye side of the first optical member, then is reflected from a concave half mirror 2 formed as a half mirror concave to the observer, and then is directed to the observer's eye upon being transmitted through the total-reflection surface 2a.

10 [0011]

This is shown in Figs. 1(A) and 1(B). Fig. 1(A) shows an optical path seen from the head, and Fig. 1(B) shows an optical path seen from the temporal region.

[0012]

As shown in the figures, the observer can observe the image displayed on the display means 4 while superimposing it on the outside view. In this example, the display is used as a superimposing-type display; however, it is also possible to use this display for observing only the displayed image. In this case, a mirror is used instead of the concave mirror.

[0013]

Including the examples described latter, this example of the present invention is so constructed as to realize an extremely thin and compact display apparatus having the thickness around from 10 mm to 15 mm. Also a wide field of view is realized with the angles of view around $\pm 16.8^\circ$ in the horizontal direction and around $\pm 11.4^\circ$ in the vertical direction.

[0014]

The factors of realizing such a compact apparatus which provides a wide field of view and favorable optical performance are as follows: in this example, the observer's side surface is used as a total-reflection surface and transmitting surface, and the concave mirror 2b is considerably decentered relative to the optical axis of the eye. In addition to them, as will be described in the examples, the following factors also greatly contribute to realize such a apparatus; the total-reflection surface is formed as a curved surface, especially a curved surface exhibiting various optical power in accordance with the difference in the azimuth

angles, or optical power is given to the concave mirror 2 in accordance with the azimuth angle.

[0015]

Especially, by giving optical power to the concave mirror 2 in accordance with the azimuth angle, it is possible to sufficiently cancel decentering aberrations occurring thereon
5 caused by the fact that the concave mirror itself is decentered. The total-reflection surface also corrects aberrations occurring on the concave mirror by being formed as a curved surface.

[0016]

Hereinafter, the direction to which the light has its travel path turned is expressed as a main-line direction, and the direction perpendicular to the main-line direction is expressed as
10 a sub-line direction. In this example, a wide angle of view is secured in the sub-line direction. Here, the concave mirror has relatively strong positive refractive power which causes aberrations; however, the aberrations caused by this positive power are corrected by giving negative optical power at the sub-line section of the total-reflection surface. Seen from the sub-line section, when the optical path is traced from the display device side or the
15 observer's eye side, the individual surfaces respectively have negative refractive power, positive refractive power (concave mirror), and negative refractive power, which form a symmetric type distribution of refractive power. In other words, this is a distribution pattern of power by which aberrations are easily canceled.

[0017]

20 To make the optical system thinner in the direction along the optical axis of the eye, it is desirable that the individual elements are so designed that the optical system 3 is vertically arranged. To be more precise, with reference to Fig. 7, when the angle of a tangent to the total-reflection surface at the vertex thereof relative to a line perpendicular to the optical axis of the eye is expresses as α (tilt angle), it is desirable that the following condition be fulfilled.
25

$$|\alpha| \leq 20^\circ$$

If it transgresses this range, the thickness thereof in the direction along the optical axis of the eye becomes thicker, and therefore the optical system becomes larger. Furthermore,
30 when an image is observed while being superimposed on the outside view, if it transgresses this range, the inclination of the optical member becomes unduly large and this gives

distortion to the outside view, and therefore it is not desirable.

[0018]

It is more desirable that the following condition be fulfilled.

5

$$-15^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 5^\circ$$

If the lower limit thereof is transgressed, although it is possible to make the optical system thinner in the direction parallel to the optical axis of the eye, distortion thereof becomes more severe. If it transgresses the upper limit thereof, the optical system becomes 10 thicker in the direction parallel to the optical axis of the eye, this makes the prism as a whole heavy, and therefore it is not desirable.

[0019]

Note that, in this example, the total-reflection surface is concave to the observer's eye side, and therefore an out side of incident surface 6 is formed as a curved surface having a 15 shape identical to that of the total-reflection surface so as to prevent the outside view from suffering from distortion.

[0020]

The concave mirror 2 is considerably decentered relative to the optical axis of the eye, and therefore decentering aberrations occur thereon. The total-reflection surface achieves 20 total reflection in a manner so as to correct the decentering aberrations, and the concave mirror 2 is formed as a surface exhibits various curvatures in accordance with the azimuth angle (i.e. a toric surface or an anamorphic surface) as previously described so that the decentering aberrations are adequately corrected. And, desirably, these surfaces are formed as an aspheric surface (i.e. a toric aspheric surface or a anamorphic aspheric surface) for 25 achieving extremely favorable optical performance.

[0021]

If the direction to which the light has its travel path turned is expressed as a main-line direction (y direction), and the direction perpendicular to the main-line direction is expressed as a sub-line direction (x direction), the individual surfaces are so designed as to exhibit 30 various optical power in accordance with the azimuth angle. However, when seen the optical system as a whole, it is desirable that the paraxial focal distances relative to each

direction are substantially fixed, in other words, if the paraxial focal distances at the main-line section and at the sub-line section in the entire optical system are expressed as f_y and f_x , respectively, it is desirable that the following condition be fulfilled.

5 $0.9 < |f_y / f_x| < 1.1$

[0022]

The total-reflection surface (or transmitting surface) or the concave mirror is so designed as to exhibit various optical power in accordance with the azimuth angle, as 10 described above. Here, it is preferable that the following condition be fulfilled when the paraxial radii of curvature of the individual surfaces at the main-line section and at the sub-line section are expressed as r_y and r_x , respectively.

$|r_x| < |r_y|$

15

[0023]

In this example, since the main-line direction is taken along the direction to which light is turned and the concave mirror 2 is considerably tilted (decentered) toward this direction for miniaturizing the optical system, greater amount of decentering aberrations occur 20 in the main-line direction than the sub-line direction. To cope with this problem, the optical power at the main-line section is made to be weaker than the sub-line section, in other words, it is so designed that the paraxial radius of curvature in the main-line direction becomes longer than the sub-line direction, as defined by the above condition, for minimizing the amount of decentering aberrations in the main-line direction.

25 [0024]

It is more preferable that the following condition be fulfilled.

$|r_x / r_y| < 0.85$

30 If this range is transgressed, the amount of decentering aberrations becomes remarkably large.

[0025]

On the contrary, as in Examples 2 to 4 described latter, if an incident surface 5 is formed as a surface exhibiting various optical power in accordance with the azimuth angle, it is possible to minimize the amount of decentering aberrations by fulfilling the following 5 condition.

$$|r_x| > |r_y|$$

[0026]

10 In order to further correct the aberrations, if the paraxial radius of curvature at the sub-line section of the total-reflection surface (or transmitting surface) 1 and the concave mirror 2 are expressed as r_{x2} and r_{x3} , respectively, it is desirable that the following conditions be fulfilled.

15 $-2.0 < 2f_x / r_{x2} < -0.1$ (a)
 $-2.5 < 2f_x / r_{x3} < -0.5$ (b)

[0027]

If the lower limit of condition (a) is transgressed, curvature (negative power) in the 20 sub-line direction of the total-reflection becomes unduly strong, and this makes it difficult to correct distortion. If the lower limit of condition (b) is transgressed, curvature (positive power) in the sub-line direction of the concave mirror becomes unduly strong, and this makes it difficult to correct astigmatism. On the other hand, if the upper limit of condition (a) is transgressed, the curvature in the sub-line direction of the total-reflection surface turns to the 25 direction in which it will have positive optical power, and this makes it difficult to fulfill the condition for total reflection. If the upper limit of the condition (b) is transgressed, positive optical power of the concave mirror 2 is weakened in the sub-line direction, then this makes the optical system thicker in the direction parallel to the optical axis of the eye, and, as a result, the optical system becomes undesirably large.

30 [0028]

It is more desirable that the following conditions be fulfilled if the focal distance of

the entire optical system in the main-line direction is expressed as f_y , the radius of curvature of the total-reflection surface is expressed as r_{y2} , and the radius of curvature of the concave mirror 2 is expresses as r_{v3} .

$$-1.0 < 2f_v / r_{v2} < 0 \quad (c)$$

$$-2.5 < 2f_v / r_{v3} < -0.2 \quad (d)$$

[0029]

If the lower limit of condition (c) is transgressed, negative power in the main-line direction of the total-reflection surface becomes strong, and this makes it difficult to correct decentering distortion. If the lower limit of condition (d) is transgressed, convex power in the main-line direction of the concave mirror becomes strong, and larger amount of decentering astigmatism occur. If the upper limit of condition (c) is transgressed, since it defined the condition for total reflection, it is difficult to fulfill the condition for total reflection. Condition (d) defines power in the main-line direction of the concave mirror, and if the upper limit thereof is transgressed, its power is weakened. Therefore, the entire length becomes longer in the main-line direction, and the optical system becomes larger.

[0030]

The total-reflection surface (or transmitting surface) 1 and the concave mirror 2 are explained above with emphasizing the curvatures. In this example, the concave mirror 2 is decentered in the direction parallel to the original image side (+) at the main-line side (y direction) from the optical axis of the eye (Fig. 7)(hereinafter, it is referred to as parallel decentering). By doing so, it is possible to minimize decentering distortion in the main-line direction.

25 [0031]

If the shift amount of parallel decentering (i.e. the distance from the optical axis of the eye to the vertex of the concave mirror) is expressed as E , it is possible to minimize the amount of decentering distortion by achieving parallel decentering in a manner so as to fulfill the following condition. (Fig. 7)

30

$E \geq 2.5 \text{ mm}$

Note that, in Example 1 described latter, the decentering amount E is 5.2 mm; however, as the other examples, by making this amount E larger, it is possible to further correct aberrations, and it is more preferable that the following condition be fulfilled.

5

$$E \geq 23 \text{ mm}$$

[0032]

Next, the incident surface 5 will be mainly explained. As shown in Fig. 7, it is 10 preferable that the angle α formed between the original image plane serving as a display means in the main-line direction and the incident surface fulfill the following condition.

$$5^\circ \leq \beta \leq 30^\circ$$

15 If the lower limit thereof is transgressed, the incident surface and the original image plane become almost parallel, and since this makes the original image plane thick in the direction parallel to the optical axis of the eye, it is not preferable. On the other hand, if it transgresses the upper limit thereof, the original image plane becomes perpendicular to the direction parallel to the optical axis of the eye.

20

[0033]

In this example, unilluminated backlighting or direct natural lighting is supposed to be used for illuminating the original image. Here, if the original image plane is perpendicular to the optical axis as described above, in the case of natural direct lighting, it is difficult to efficiently receive natural light, and this makes the virtual image formed by a reflecting 25 optical system becomes dark. Therefore, in this example, natural lighting is used during daytime when bright natural light is observed and backlighting or natural lighting is selectively used during nighttime while detecting the brightness of backlighting and outside.

[0034]

By the use of a liquid crystal display (LCD) as a display means on which an original 30 image is formed, the entire apparatus is miniaturized. Here, it is desirable that the angle γ formed between the optical axis of the center of the original image and the principal ray of

light exiting from the original image (i.e. the central ray of the aperture stop when the eyeball is taken as an aperture stop) (Fig. 7) fulfill the following condition.

$$|\gamma| \leq 10^\circ$$

5

This defines the condition required to be fulfilled when a liquid crystal device is used as an original image plane. Generally speaking, liquid crystal displays have a narrow field of view, and light entering from or exiting to an oblique direction will be quenched. Therefore, a bright virtual image can not be obtained without making incident light and 10 exiting light as perpendicular to the liquid crystal surface as possible. By fulfilling the condition mentioned above, it is possible to observe a sufficiently bright virtual image.

[0035]

Figs. 2 to 5 respectively show the optical sectional views corresponding to Examples 1 to 4 described latter. In Fig. 2, a toric aspheric surface is used as well as a concave mirror 15 and a total-reflection surface. In Fig. 3, a concave mirror, a total-reflection surface, and an incident surface are all formed as anamorphic aspheric surfaces. In Figs. 4 and 5, all surfaces are also formed as anamorphic aspheric surfaces.

[0036]

Note that, in Examples 2 to 4 corresponding to Figs. 3 to 5, the incident surface 5 is 20 also formed as a curved surface so as to correct aberrations satisfactorily.

[0037]

In this example, as the optical member, acrylic substance is used; however, it is of course possible to use a glass plate.

[0038]

The values of the examples of the present invention are listed below. Note that, TAL 25 stands for a toric aspheric surface and AAL stands for anamorphic aspheric surface.

[0039]

TAL is defined by

[0040]

30

$$z = \frac{y^2 / r_{yi}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - (1 + k_i)(y/r_{yi})^2}} + A_i y^4 + B_i y^6 + C_i y^8 + D_i y^{10}$$

(here, i is the number of surface)

5

[0041]

AAL is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} z = & \frac{y^2 / r_{iy} + x^2 / r_{ix}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \{(1 + k_{yi})(y/r_{yi})^2 + (1 + k_{xi})(x/r_{xi})^2\}}} \\ & + AR_i \{(1 + AP_i)y^2 + (1 - AP_i)x^2\}^2 + BR_i \{(1 + BP_i)y^2 + (1 - BP_i)x^2\}^3 \\ & + CR_i \{(1 + CP_i)y^2 + (1 - CP_i)x^2\}^4 + DR_i \{(1 + DP_i)y^2 + (1 - DP_i)x^2\}^5 \end{aligned}$$

10

(here, i is the number of surface)

[0042]

Ai, Bi . . . are coefficients for each aspheric surface.

[0043]

15

In the following examples, at least the total-reflection surface is formed as a surface exhibiting various refractive power in accordance with the azimuth angle; however, it is possible to form this surface as a rotationally symmetric spherical surface or a aspheric surface.

Example 1

r_{yi} [mm]	r_{xi} [mm]	y, z
(Main-line radius of curvature)	(Sub-line radius of curvature)	(Vertex coordinate) (Tilt angle in the main-line direction °)

i=1	∞	(0, 0)	0	In the Prism
2	-548.019	(-0.05, 19.80)	TAL 0	
3	-57.585	(5.10, 29.14)	TAL -22	
4	-548.019	(-0.05, 19.80)	TAL 0	
5	∞	(18.58, 28.07)	68.90	
6	∞	(21.38, 29.15)	51.17	

	K_4, K_4	A_4, A_4	B_4, B_4	C_4, C_4	D_4, D_4
(TAL2, 4)	613.869	-0.473E-5	0.326E-7	-0.940E-10	0.991E-13

	K_4	A_4	B_4	C_4	D_4
(TAL3)	-1.360	0.345E-5	-0.301E-7	0.944E-10	-0.113E-12

(Prism d-line refractive index) (Prism d line Abbe number)	1.49171 57.4	(Main-line focal distance) (Sub-line focal distance)	$f_y = 21.07\text{mm}$ $f_x = 21.86\text{mm}$
---	-----------------	---	--

(Values)

$$\alpha = -1.8^\circ \quad E = 5.2\text{mm}$$

$$|f_y/f_x| = 0.96 \quad r = 1.36$$

$$|r_x/r_y| = 0.7 \quad \beta = 17.7$$

$$2f_x/r_x = -0.59$$

$$2f_x/r_n = -1.08$$

$$2f_y/r_n = -0.08$$

$$2f_y/r_n = 0.73$$

Example 2

r_y [mm]	r_x [mm]	y, z				
(Main-line radius of curvature)	(Sub-line radius of curvature)	(Vertex coordinate)	(Tilt angle in the main-line direction °)			
i=1	∞	(0, 0)	0			
2	-2158.074	-32.224	(0.60, 19.88)	AAL	-10.55	
3	-63.157	-32.870	(34.76, 30.90)	AAL	15.81	In the Prism
4	-2158.074	-32.224	(0.60, 19.83)	AAL	-10.55	
5	72.108	1049.744	(14.82, 29.00)	AAL	53.74	
6	∞		(17.03, 30.62)		42.91	
(AAL2, 4)						
	$K_{z,4}$	$K_{x,4}$	$AR_{z,4}$	$BR_{z,4}$	$CR_{z,4}$	$DR_{z,4}$
	-13763.5	-3.896	-0.170E-4	0.401E-7	-0.154E-9	0.223E-12
			$AP_{z,4}$	$BP_{z,4}$	$CP_{z,4}$	$DP_{z,4}$
			-0.245	0.416E-1	0.870E-1	0.203E-1
(AAL3)						
	K_z	K_x	AR_z	BR_z	CR_z	DR_z
	1.238	0.279	-0.317E-5	0.248E-8	-0.178E-11	0.608E-15
			AP_z	BP_z	CP_z	DP_z
			0.249	0.327E-2	-0.192E-1	0.181E-1
(AAL5)						
	K_z	K_x	AR_z	BR_z	CR_z	DR_z
	6.285	-1.33E-6	-0.114E-4	-0.402E-6	0.113E-8	-0.411E-10
			AP_z	BP_z	CP_z	DP_z
			0.273E1	0.155E1	0.160E1	-0.644
(Prism d-line refractive index) (Prism d line Abbe number)				1.49171	(Main-line focal distance) (Sub-line focal distance)	$f_y = 23.20\text{mm}$ $f_x = 24.09\text{mm}$
(Values)						
$\alpha = -10.5^\circ$	$2f_z/r_x = -1.5$	$2f_z/r_y = -0.73$				
$ f_z/f_x = 0.96$	$2f_z/r_x = -1.47$	$B = 34.1\text{mm}$				
$r_z/r_x = 0.52$	$2f_z/r_y = -0.02$	$\gamma = 0.23^\circ$				
		$\beta = 10.8^\circ$				

Example 3

r_{yi} [mm]	r_{xi} [mm]	y, z				
(Main-line radius of curvature)	(Sub-line radius of curvature)	(Vertex coordinate)	(Tilt angle in the main-line direction °)			
i=1	∞	(0, 0)	0			
2 -3945.723	-49.792 (3.665, 20.415)	AAL	0.04			
3 -67.136	-38.803 (36.403, 32.01)	AAL	14.60			
4 -3945.723	-49.792 (3.665, 20.415)	AAL	0.04			
5 123.302	843.030 (19.610, 28.357)	AAL	61.72			
6 ∞	(22.402, 29.859)		52.54			
(AAL2, 4)	K_{x1} 7202.73	K_{z1} -7.709	AR_{x1} -0.142E-7 AP_{x1} -0.183	BR_{x1} 0.379E-7 BP_{x1} 0.710E-1	CR_{x1} -0.154E-9 CP_{x1} 0.514E-1	DR_{x1} 0.198E-12 DP_{x1} 0.201E-1
(AAL3)	K_x 1.066	K_z 0.183	AR_x -0.222E-5 AP_x 0.390	BR_x 0.321E-8 BP_x 0.586E-1	CR_x -0.188E-11 CP_x -0.185E-1	DR_x 0.461E-15 DP_x -0.222E-1
(AAL5)	K_x -85.544	K_z -916252	AR_x -0.913E-6 AP_x 0.989E1	CR_x -0.204E-9 BP_x 0.128E1	DR_x 0.117E-13 CP_x 0.128E2	DP_x -0.227E-10 $f_y = 23.71\text{mm}$ $f_x = 23.70\text{mm}$
(Prism d-line refractive index) (Prism d line Abbe number)		1.49171 57.4		(Main-line focal distance) (Sub-line focal distance)		
(Values)						
$\alpha = 0.05^\circ$	$2f_x/r_x = -0.95$	$2f_y/r_y = -0.71$				
$ f_y/f_x = 1.0$	$2f_z/r_z = -1.22$	$B = 25.6\text{mm}$				
$ r_x/r_z = 0.58$	$2f_z/r_z = -0.01$	$\gamma = 1.97^\circ$				
		$\beta = 15.5^\circ$				

Example 4

r_{yi} [mm]	r_{xi} [mm]	y, z					
(Main-line radius of curvature)	(Sub-line radius of curvature)	(Vertex coordinate)	(Tilt angle in the main-line direction °)				
i=1	∞	(0, 0)	0				
2	-3752.581	-50.580	(2.85, 23.13)	AAL	0		
3	-66.938	-38.651	(36.37, 34.72)	AAL	14.15	In the Prism	
4	-3752.581	-50.580	(2.85, 23.13)	AAL	0		
5	306.125	1095.447	(18.59, 31.48)	AAL	69.84		
6	∞		(21.46, 32.54)		51.20		
(AAL2, 4)	$K_x, 4$ -33820.5	$K_y, 4$ -11.350	$AR_4, 4$ -0.144E-4	$BR_4, 4$ 0.398E-7	$CR_4, 4$ -0.153E-9	$DR_4, 4$ 0.201E-12	
				$AP_4, 4$ -0.152	$BP_4, 4$ 0.730E-1	$CP_4, 4$ 0.494E-1	
						$DP_4, 4$ 0.255E-1	
(AAL3)	K_x 1.063	K_y 0.127	AR_3 -0.225E-5	BR_3 0.316E-8	CR_3 -0.188E-11	DR_3 0.474E-15	
				AP_3 0.372	BP_3 0.568E-1	CP_3 -0.168E-1	
						DP_3 -0.208E-1	
(AAL5)	K_x 745.334	K_y -651374	AR_5 -0.656E-6	BR_5 0.124E-6	CR_5 0.474E-12	DR_5 -0.972E-11	
				AP_5 0.837E1	BP_5 -0.273	CP_5 0.563E1	
						DP_5 -0.538	
(Prism d-line refractive index)			1.49171	(Main-line focal distance)	$f_y = 23.09\text{mm}$		
(Prism d line Abbe number)			57.4	(Sub-line focal distance)	$f_x = 23.09\text{mm}$		

(Values)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha &= 0^\circ & 2f_i/r_n &= -0.91 & 2f_i/r_n &= -0.68 \\
 |f_i/f_x| &= 1.0 & 2f_i/r_n &= -1.19 & B &= 33.5\text{mm} \\
 |r_s/r_r| &= 0.58 & 2f_r/r_n &= -0.01 & \gamma &= 1.52^\circ \\
 &&&& \beta &= 18.6^\circ
 \end{aligned}$$

[0048]

[Advantages of the Present Invention]

As described above, according to the present invention, it is possible to provide a extremely thin glasses-type display that has the thickness in the direction parallel to the 5 optical axis of the eye around from 10 mm to 15 mm, and that secures a wide angle of view (high magnifying power), namely $\pm 16.8^\circ$ in the horizontal angle of view and $\pm 11.4^\circ$ in the perpendicular angle of view. Moreover, it can provide bright and desirable optical performance. By use of a semi-transmissive surface as a concave mirror, it is possible to superimpose a bright virtual image of an original image on an outside view without distorting 10 the outside view.

[0049]

In the present invention, the display is so designed as to secure a wide field of view; however, if it is deigned to have a relatively narrower angle of view, it is possible to make the display thinner. This is because, according to the present invention, the thickness of the 15 display is defined by the angle of view.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Fig. 1] A diagram illustrating the optical path of the observation optical system embodying the present invention.

20 [Fig. 2] A diagram illustrating the sectional view and the optical path of the observation optical system of Example 1 of the present invention.

[Fig. 3] A diagram illustrating the sectional view and the optical path of the observation optical system of Example 2 of the present invention.

25 [Fig. 4] A diagram illustrating the sectional view and the optical path of the observation optical system of Example 3 of the present invention.

[Fig. 5] A diagram illustrating the sectional view and the optical path of the observation optical system of Example 4 of the present invention.

[Fig. 6] A fundamental optical sectional view of the observation optical system embodying the present invention.

30 [Fig. 7] A fundamental optical sectional view of the observation optical system embodying the present invention.

[Reference Symbols]

- 1 Total-Reflection Surface (or Transmitting Surface)
- 2 Concave Mirror
- 5 Incident Surface
- 3 A Display Means for Forming an Original Image